

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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13

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SIL-01 LAB-06 EB-11 SS-15 L-03 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IGA-02 RSR-01 AGR-20

AID-20 /112 W

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R 112100Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3246

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

CONFIDENTIAL SAN SALVADOR 2639

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, ES

SUBJECT: BORGONOVO COMMENTS ON AIFLD AND LAND REFORM

REF: SAN SALVADOR 2392 (NOTAL; SAN SALVADOR 2452 (NOTAL)

1. I CALLED ON FONMIN BORGONOVO TODAY (JULY 10) AND TOLD HIM IN DETAIL OF THE CONCERN OF THE US LABOR MOVEMENT AT THE EXPULSION OF AIFLD FROM THE COUNTRY. HE REPLIED THAT AIFLD REPRESENTATIVES WERE INTERFERING QN THE INTERNAL POLITICS OF THE COUNTRY AND THAT HE UNDERSTOOD AIFLD REP HORNA HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM PERU, PERHAPS FOR THE SAME KIND OF ACTIVITIES. HE THEN WENT IN DETAIL INTO THE WHOLE PROBLEM OF AGRARIAN REFORM IN EL SALVADOR. HE SAID THAT THIS COUNTRY IS UNIQUE; THAT IT HAS NO MINERAL WEALTH AND MUST THUS DEPEND ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO EARN DIVISAS: "WE CANNOT, THEREFORE, RISK STRUCTURAL FAILURE IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA." HE CLAIMED THAT AGRARIAN REFORM THROUGHOUT LATIN AMERICA HAS HAD A CHECKERED HISTORY: IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC THEY SIMPLY NATIONALIZED TRUJILLO'S HOLDINGS; IN PERU THE LAND BELONGED TO LARGE FOREIGN INTERESTS; IN COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA, THE REFORM IS A TOTAL FAILURE. INDEED, HE FEELS JAPAN AND CONFIDENTIAL

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TAIWAN ARE THE ONLY EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL REFORMS, DUE IN

LARGE PART TO MASSIVE U.S. HELP. I ASKED IF THE MODEST
PROGRAM IN HONDURAS HAD MADE ANY WAVES IN SALVADOR AND HE
SAID IT HAD NOT. HE EXPECTS IT WILL BE SIX TO NINE MONTHS
BEFORE MOLINA'S PROPOSALS FOR REFORM WILL BE UNVEILED.

2. COMMENT: THE FONMIN'S REACTION REINFORCED THAT OF PRES.
MOLINA: LAND REFORM IS SUPER-SENSITIVE IN THIS COUNTRY AND
THE GOES FEELS IT MUST APPROACH THE SUBJECT IN ITS OWN WAY
AND AT A PACE WHICH IT CONSIDERS SUITABLE.

CATTO

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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